



Episode 7 - A New Hope (Opening Credits)

Russell's Wrath

After Erik's blindside, Russell H., Russell S., and Ben are still dumbfounded by the outcome of the vote. "Tonight's Tribal Council was definitely, um, a *surprise* for the majority of the tribe," Liz narrates, while she sets her torch down. "Given the information I had, it would have been very foolish of me to *not* play the idol, so I decided to trust John and fortunately, it was the right decision." But John's move paints a target on his back with his former ally, Russell H., as a fuming Russell interrogates John about what went wrong at Tribal Council: "How'd she know to play it?!" Russell H. lashes out. "You told her...?" "No. I did *not* expect Liz to play the idol," John defends. "I was as shocked as *you* were." "So, uh, you're tellin' me she can read *minds*?" Russell H. questions. "Obviously she got *paranoid*," John tells him. "You still lied to us and voted *Erik*," Russell H. accuses. John cannot talk around this, so he admits to it, citing Shambo's speech at Tribal Council as the reason why he saw Erik as a bigger threat. "I mean, that *helps* us that we got rid of a huge threat, and Shambo will do whatever we *say*," John explains. Russell H. isn't having any of it: "You can talk all you want. Just don't get *too* cocky," Russell H. warns him. John issues the same warning back. "John thinks he's gonna outwit *me* and I'm gonna buy that *crap* he's tellin' me?!" Russell H. bitterly says to the camera. "It ain't gonna happen." "As long as you give me your word that you're not gonna vote for me on this next vote..." John brings up. "No, uh, it's gonna be Liz," Russell H. lies to him, "cause she ain't gonna have another idol." "Yep," John plays along. "I just lied to John and said 'John, it's gonna be *Liz*,'" Russell H. continues in his confessional. "But you know what? I still got four solid votes in Russ, Ben, and Brett, so...John's *gone*."

But, unbeknownst to Russell H., Brett's true loyalty is not to him, but to John. The two allies meet behind the shelter and celebrate the success of John's plan: "Cannot [censored] believe it," John says in disbelief. "That was..." Brett pauses. "*Genius*, if I do say so myself," John finishes Brett's sentence. "For fifteen days, I had been sitting back and waiting for the right moment where, you know, things had been *progressing* in the direction that I wanted, and I was finally able to grab things by the horns and take control of this game," John boasts in his confessional. "You know, I've got my right-hand man [Brett]; I've got my 'girlfriend' [Monica]; I've got people on her side that I can use should the opportunity arise [Laura and Kelly]; and I've got my *pawn*, which is *Shambo*; you know, so I've got all these different pieces that are gonna get me to the top." Still giddy from the joy of seeing Erik blindsided, Shambo approaches John and thanks him for helping her get Erik out of the tribe: "After tonight, regardless of what happens the rest of the game, I owe *you* my life and I will reward you accordingly," Shambo promises John. "*Alright*," John replies. "Tribal Council was *awesome*," Shambo gloats. "Erik got blindsided. He didn't even bring his *bag*. Oh, it was *delicious*!" she laughs. "But... Russell [H.] basically threw me under the bus by putting my name down so that if Liz used her idol, Shambo would go home, so he's absolutely my next target. I wanted him gone...*yesterday*."

Hurtin' For Certain

In the early hours of Day 16, Shambo is visited at camp by the Survivor Medical Team to examine her previous injuries, especially a deep cut on her thumb. "My body is in absolute agony," Shambo tells the camera. "I've got some pretty good-sized cuts on my thumb, on my knuckles. Everything's swollen and scraped and *bruised*. I mean, they stitched me up and gave it clean dressings but...it's *impossible* to stay dry." The medic informs Shambo that her thumb has become infected as well as another cut on her leg. "You know, I'm constantly working out here, whether it's keeping the *fire* goin' or splitting bamboo," Shambo continues in her confessional. "It's not helping my case at *all* bein' a workhorse, but it needs to get done. And you know what? I'm not doin' nearly as much as I did the first, you know, 10 days, if you wanna know the *truth*. I wish to *God* I could keep that up, but I'm hurtin'. I'm run down, and...I feel a *heck* of a lot older than 45," she laughs, trying to maintain a good attitude. As Shambo returns back to camp after being examined by the medics, her tribemates meet her to find out the update: "What's going on with your *hand*, Shambo?" John asks. "They said they'll give it a couple more days, but there's some infection starting," Shambo responds, as she points to her thumb. "Right here, at the joint, it's like...see how this is all *red*?" she asks, while pointing to her swollen knuckles. "You're a tough *girl*, Shambo," Brett encourages her. "Dude, if I get sent home cause of an infection, I'm gonna be *pissed*!" she exclaims. Russell H., however, feels differently: "You know, Shambo hurt her hand a couple days and it got *infected*," Russell H. recaps. "But I *hope* she gets evacuated cause that's one less person for me to beat," he then declares to the camera.

Friends For Life

At the Galu camp, Mick, Betsy, and Natalie lounge in the shelter together as Mick opens up about his personal life and his girlfriend: "We've been together over a year now and I really think, like, she's the *one*," Mick expresses. "That's *great*," Natalie tells him. "I was thinking about this last *night*, and...if I make it to Day 33 or whenever it is that our family comes for a challenge, I think I'm gonna ask her to marry me," Mick continues. "You *are*?" Natalie asks him. "I think you have to *do* it!" Betsy encourages. Mick explains that he was waiting until after his residency was over so he could provide stability, "but...I mean, I'm 33 now. At this point, I feel like I should be ready to take the *plunge*," Mick laughs. "Oh, you're gonna make me cry," an emotional Natalie says. "This morning, Betsy, Mick, and myself were talking in the hut and Mick actually said that he was gonna propose to his girlfriend," Natalie narrates. "What does she do?" Natalie inquires. "She actually started her own law practice a couple years ago, so I supported her with that..." Mick begins to answer the question. "You know, Mick's *such* a good person," Natalie continues in her confessional. "He's helped me *so* much to deal with missing my *own* boyfriend. I mean, he's *awesome*, and he'll definitely be a friend of mine for *life*."

Continuing their conversation in the shelter, Mick now turns the discussion to strategy: "And, you know, the other thing is, the key for us right now is the

kidnapping because I get to make the decision, and...I think our best move is to pick someone who we think would *mutiny*, right?" Mick explains. Mick then elaborates on his strategy in his confessional: "So right now, the Galu tribe is split directly in half and I was thinking about, 'you know, there has to be a way we can break up the 3-3.' What I came up with was, if Galu wins the challenge today and we can convince someone from Foa Foa to mutiny and come with us, we could have four votes *guaranteed* against Monica." "Okay, but who do we *pick*?" Natalie prompts him. "That's the *thing*," Mick brings up. "What do you guys think?" he then asks, leaving his options open.

Reward Challenge - Memory

The Galu and Foa Foa tribes arrive on their respective colored mats. Host Jeff Probst explains the rules of the challenge. Scattered out in the field are thirteen pairs of matching survival items that are covered. One tribe member at a time will walk out and uncover two items. If they match, that person scores one point for their tribe. To make things more difficult, four of the items are dummy items that do not have a match. The tribe that has the most points at the end of the challenge wins three egg-laying chickens, one rooster, and all the items they matched. Because Foa Foa has one extra member, Shambo chooses Ben to sit out.

The challenge begins as members from each tribe alternate turns on the course. Russell S. of Foa Foa is the first to uncover a duplicate item, allowing Natalie of Galu to correctly match the eating utensils on her next turn. Mick then matches a hammer and nails, earning a second point for Galu. As the challenge progresses, the tribes continue to match items and score points until Galu leads 6-4 over Foa Foa because Foa Foa struggles to remember the location of several matching items. Changing Foa Foa's luck, John then matches up a mosquito net and closes the gap at 6-5. Hidden amongst the four dummy items lies the two final pairs. If Galu scores one more point, they win Reward. Monica heads out in hopes of matching another pair of items. When both Monica and Russell H. are incorrect, it comes down to Betsy, who is the next up. She steps onto the course and reveals two lanterns. In the end, Galu wins with seven points to Foa Foa's five.

Mick is then faced with the difficult decision of kidnapping one Foa Foa member until the next Immunity Challenge. "Kidnapping the right person today is absolutely critical," Mick agonizes in his confessional. "With Shambo, she's an ex-Marine and I see her being loyal to a fault. You know, I don't know if she would mutiny." As the Foa Foa tribe awaits Mick's decision, Shambo considers her options in the game: "If I were kidnapped two days ago, I would have jumped ship in a *heartbeat*," Shambo expresses, "but...I feel more accepted around here now that Erik's gone, so...it would absolutely be a tough decision for me." Russell H., on the other hand, already has his mind made up: "No way would I switch tribes right now," Russell H. declares. "I *have* to stick with Foa Foa...cause I gotta get rid of John." Mick then shares his thoughts on another option, kidnapping Russell S.: "I think my best bet is probably Russell S.," Mick considers. "You know, he's a stand-up guy and I think he and I are very similar in how we *relate* to people." Meanwhile, Russell S. contemplates his own strategy before the upcoming

kidnapping: "You know, I'm playin' the *game*," Russell S. says. "As long as I can stick with my *guys*, I'm open to whatever anybody wants to *approach* me with." After a painstaking thought process, Mick sets his plan into motion and decides to kidnap Russell S., who receives a sealed note to be opened in private.

To Mutiny Or Not To Mutiny?

Coming off a victory, the excited Galu members return to camp with the chicken coop containing three egg-laying chickens and one rooster. Russell S. then greets each of the Galu members. "Should we kill a chicken for our guest?" Mick immediately brings up. "I think that's a good *idea*," Laura cheerfully says. As the tribe prepares for the killing of one of the chickens, Russell S. sneaks off by himself and reads his clue to the whereabouts of the hidden Immunity Idol: "*What casts a shadow and points to the sky? The object you seek is hidden nearby*," Russell S. reads aloud. "Hmm," he ponders. "I got the *clue* for the hidden Immunity Idol," Russell S. recaps. "It seemed to me like it was the first clue to a new idol, so right away, that struck me as *odd*, but...the clue was so broad that it didn't really help me, you know, *pinpoint* anything." Back at camp, Kelly confusedly asks where Russell went. "I'm definitely gonna be *lookin'* for that [idol]," Russell S. continues in his confessional, "but right now, I wanna talk to all of these women and Mick and find out, you know, what's been goin' on in their *tribe* cause at the end of the day, that's what I'm here for," he finishes.

Worried for his life in the game, Mick takes Russell S. and Betsy on a walk in the jungle. "You know, I picked you because I feel like you're the most trustworthy guy," Mick tells him. "I *appreciate* that," Russell S. responds sincerely. "Here's what I want to talk to you about," Mick then brings up. "Myself, Betsy, Natalie...you know, we're good, honest people. Laura, Monica, and Kelly, they're three *snakes*..." "You cannot trust them at *all*," Betsy adds. "So what's the deal?" Russell S. then inquires. Mick explains the plan to save himself by having Russell S. mutiny and take out Monica: "It would be us four: you, me, Natalie, and Betsy," Mick assures him. "That gives us all the best chance." "We *need* you, Russell!" Betsy begs him. Russell S. is still unsure how to respond and hesitates to say anything. "You don't think she has *ties* to anyone on your tribe?" Mick then asks Russell. "I mean, you're definitely makin' me *think*," Russell S. contemplates, "but...it's something that I'm gonna have to think long and hard about." "I would *want* you to think it over," Mick tells him, "but...we're offering you a great deal, my friend. It's mutually beneficial. You're helping me; you're helping *yourself*." "I'll let you know," Russell S. then responds. "I'm *definitely* fighting for my life right now and so is Betsy and so is Natalie," Mick explains. "I feel like Russell [S.] and I are on the same *page*, so it's like, with Russell here, at least we have a glimmer of hope. All I need *now* is for those girls to come in and mess everything up," he says.

Later that day, Russell S. joins Laura, Kelly, and Monica on the beach. "Alright, so what's going on for *you* guys?" Russell S. asks the three women. "Is Mick talking to you?" Laura poses. "We had a couple of talks," Russell S. admits. "What's he been saying?" Monica pushes him. "Just *talkin'*, you know, about the tribes," Russell S. says to her. "He didn't try to get you to make a deal?" she then asks. "I can't *say*," Russell S. answers. "Why *not*?" Monica presses him. "I'm not gonna talk about a

conversation I have with somebody else, you know, just like I'm not talking to nobody else about our talks," Russell S. then says. "Russell's really frustrating," **Monica** vents. "You know, he's not giving up any information. I mean, I definitely think Mick tried to make a deal or propose some kind of an alliance to get rid of me, Laura, or Kelly. He'd be stupid *not* to." "Clearly, they're trying to work a *deal* with you, Russ," Laura then states. "How do you know you can believe a word that comes out of his mouth?" Monica questions him. "Well...that's what I gotta figure *out*," Russell S. responds. "I got kidnapped twice, and there's no way in hell I would have mutinied even if I was offered a deal," Monica rebuts. "I just think it's too *risky*." "Well...I gotta do what I gotta *do*," Russell S. comments. Despite trying to hide it, Monica's expression shows that she's annoyed with Russell. "My head is *spinning*," **Russell S.** confesses to the camera. "You know, when I was first kidnapped, I never thought that I could actually be a swing vote over here at **Galu**. You know, I do believe their tribe is divided, but you know, when your neck is on the line, they could band together and say 'Let's all get rid of Russ,' so...I'm not gonna make no rash decisions on this whole *mutiny* deal. I'm gonna reason it *out* and I'm gonna do what's best for *me*."

Back at the main **Galu** camp, Natalie and Mick stand by the fire together. "I think he's gonna do it," Natalie optimistically says. "You really *believe* that?" Mick asks. "I do," Natalie repeats. "Don't get your hopes up; I'm just saying, nothing's for *sure* yet," Mick reminds her.

The Double Agent

At **Foa Foa**, Ben, Brett, and Russell H. sit around the fire and Russell H. brings up his strategy to take out John: "At first, my plan was to get rid of Liz and Shambo," **Russell H.** expresses, "but...now I gotta get rid of *John* because he can manipulate Shambo and *Liz* into doin' what he wants. Without John, they're just *useless*, so...to me, he's the biggest threat here." "So we have four votes?" Ben then asks for clarification. "It's gonna be us three and Russell [S.], so that's four right *there*," Russell H. tells him, as Brett stares ahead. "Perfect," Ben says. "We just stay on our plan. We get rid of John...and then we'll take out *Liz*," Russell H. explains. "For basically the last couple Tribals, it's supposed to have been Liz or Shambo going home," **Brett** reiterates, "but...it seems like, at every Tribal Council, one of the guys ends up getting voted off and...right now, Russell [H.]'s definitely coming after John." Russell H. then continues his campaign against John: "He's gotta go," Russell H. insists. "He's playin' that *mind* game, and...you do not challenge somebody unless you know for *sure* you're stronger than them *mentally*," Russell H. declares. "Yeah," Brett halfheartedly agrees.

Immediately, Brett meets with John in the jungle and fills him in on Russell's scheming: "Right now, Russell [H.]'s gunning for you and he's got Ben and Russell [S.] with him," Brett informs John. "Of course he is," the ever-confident John replies. "And...he thinks he's got *you*. He has no idea that we have this, you know, you're watching my back and I'm watching your back type of deal, so I'm not too worried about it." "Brett's my secret weapon out here," **John** laughs in his confessional. "You know, he's a double-agent; he's a stealth *assassin*, and we're

kindof pulling the strings around here as subtly as possible.” John then talks with both Liz and Shambo on a rocky section of the beach about voting out Russell H. “That’s who I was wanting to vote *last* time,” Liz admits. Shambo is also easily convinced: “Whatever you *say*,” she tells John. “And we already have a fourth *vote*,” John then divulges. “We *do*?” Shambo asks somewhat confusedly. John doesn’t reveal Brett as the fourth vote. “Russell thinks he’s gonna take *me* down if we were to lose the challenge tomorrow,” John continues in his confessional, “but...in reality, myself, Shambo, Liz, and Brett are gonna vote for *Russell*, so...life is *good*.”

A Crushing Blow

The next morning, Kelly and Monica arrive at their tribe’s treemail basket. “Let’s see what’s going on for today,” Kelly says, as she reaches into it and pulls out a message. The two women then arrive back at camp with treemail, which hints at a food-eating challenge: “*The ocean’s deep provides many a treat. Some pay a fortune for what you will eat. So swallow your pride cause you’re in no position, to turn up your nose to some free nutrition,*” Kelly and Monica read. As the treemail sinks into the **Galu** members’ minds, Russell S. is already preoccupied with the deal that Mick proposed to him the previous day: “Yesterday, Mick and Betsy approached me about a strategy to possibly mutiny,” **Russell S.** narrates, “and...I thought a *lot* about it overnight; you know, I wore out my brain, and...as much as I would like to help them out, cause Mick, you know, he’s a good *guy*, but I’d be turnin’ my back on my tribe. It’s just that *simple*, so...now I gotta talk to Mick and let him down easy.”

Russell S. pulls Mick aside and the two castaways walk further down the beach together: “I’m gonna be *honest* with you, dude,” Russell S. begins. “I just wanted to tell you man to man, you know?” Mick nods his head and says “Yeah.” “I gotta go back to **Foa Foa**,” Russell S. reveals. “What? *Why*?” Mick says in shock, obviously not expecting what Russell had to say. “They’re not gonna know what to think,” Russell S. defends himself. “They’re gonna think I *betrayed* ‘em. You know, I also gotta think about the rest of my *tribe*. It’s not the best move for my *game*.” Mick is devastated by Russell S.’s admission: “I mean, what do you want me to do? Offer up my first-born *son*?” Mick pleads somewhat jokingly. “Name him *Russell*?” There is a brief silence before Mick makes yet another suggestion: “We could even...we could throw the next Reward Challenge and let you go back over [to **Foa Foa**],” Mick offers. “I don’t know,” Russell S. mumbles. “There’s nothing that I can say to change your mind?” Mick asks again. “I just can’t *do* it, man,” Russell S. apologizes. “Just when I think something’s *finally* going my way...” **Mick** disappointedly says to the camera. He then shakes his head and takes a long pause. “[I have] no words,” he then says in his confessional. “Well, if I get voted off, you’ll know that it’s Laura, Kelly, and Monica in control and Laura’ll be the new chief,” Mick reveals. “Remember that.” “Will *do*, man,” Russell S. tells him. “That’s the three you need to take out after the merge,” Mick then advises. “I failed at convincing *Russell*,” a dismayed Mick later continues in his confessional, “so I need to focus on winning this next Immunity Challenge. Whatever’s put in front of me, I just have to eat it,” he says moments before the challenge.

Immunity Challenge - Samoan Smoothies

The **Galu** and **Foa Foa** tribes arrive on their respective colored mats on a beach. Russell S. reluctantly rejoins his **Foa Foa** tribe. Mick, Natalie, and Betsy are visibly distressed: “*Russell* [S.] didn’t mutiny,” **Betsy** laments in her confessional. “He went back to **Foa Foa**, so right now, it’s imperative that we win *Immunity*. You know, we need to hold off on going back to Tribal Council for as long as *possible*.” Host Jeff Probst, who is standing behind a game wheel, explains the rules of the challenge. Jeff will spin the roulette-style wheel while one member of each tribe rolls a ball. The ball will land on different ingredients. Jeff will then blend those ingredients to make a Samoan Smoothie. Each time a player gulps the entire drink down, they score one point for their tribe. The first tribe to accumulate six points wins Immunity. Since **Foa Foa** has one extra member, Shambo decides to sit Liz out.

For the first round, John takes on Betsy. The balls land on “Octopus” and “Giant Clams.” John and Betsy are both cheered on by their respective tribes, as they drink the smoothie. In the end, they both get it down, scoring one point for each tribe. The next round is a battle between Russell H. and Laura. Jeff blends up jellyfish and noni juice and hands each castaway their smoothie. “What does it *taste* like?” Brett asks. “I ain’t even tryin’ to taste it,” Russell H. responds, as he continues to choke down the concoction. “This is the worst thing ever,” Laura then complains. Despite struggling, both Russell H. and Laura score a point for their tribes. It’s Russell S. versus Kelly for the third round. While Russell S. manages to get through a smoothie of sea cucumber and sea snails, Kelly immediately chokes on it. “I took, like, one *swallow* of it and I knew I wasn’t gonna be able to finish,” **Kelly** narrates. “It was *disgusting*.” The other **Galu** members continue to encourage Kelly, but she decides that she can’t finish. “I can’t do it anymore,” she says before setting the glass back down. This gives **Foa Foa** a one-point lead. In the fourth round, Ben and Monica down a sea noodle and sea urchin blend. Ben makes it look easy when he drinks the entire smoothie with no hesitation, easily scoring another point for **Foa Foa**. He even finishes the remains of Kelly’s smoothie, to the astonishment of the others. Monica then finishes her own smoothie to score another point for **Galu**. **Foa Foa** maintains a 4-3 lead.

Brett takes on Mick in the fifth round. They each get a glass of sea slug guts lightly blended with water. Despite the thickness of the concoction, Brett proves to be a superstar and chugs the smoothie down as fast as Ben did. “*Brett*, you know, he’s the smallest guy up there and he chugged that thing faster than *anybody*,” **Russell S.** praises him in his confessional. Mick has a tougher time, but his determination comes through and he finishes the smoothie, scoring the fourth point for **Galu**. “I can’t believe you just drank what you drank,” John comments to Brett. “I can’t *either*,” Brett replies. In the final round, if Shambo scores a point for her tribe, **Foa Foa** will win Immunity. Therefore, the only way **Galu** has a chance at Immunity is if Natalie finishes her smoothie and Shambo does not. “Give me a minute to pray,” Natalie requests before the round begins. Ben of **Foa Foa** is appalled by the squeamishness of some of his fellow castaways: “I definitely think

most of these people were, uh, *pansies* about the whole thing,” says a frustrated **Ben**. “So *what*?! You know, it *tastes* bad. Get over it and just *drink* it!” Jeff then hands both Shambo and Natalie a vile mixture of octopus tentacles and sea cucumber. “I’ve never had something so *disgusting* in my mouth,” **Natalie** narrates, when she first tries the smoothie. “I mean, it was *horrible*. I was just telling myself it wasn’t really what Jeff told us it was.” As Natalie chokes and gags, Shambo continues to drink her smoothie: “Shambo’s not slowing down,” Jeff narrates. With all eyes on Shambo and Natalie, **Galu** watches helplessly as Shambo finishes her smoothie and Natalie spits hers up. With this **Foa Foa** wins Immunity. “I’m so sorry,” Natalie apologizes. As the **Foa Foa** tribe celebrates, a joyful Russell S. notices a very dejected Mick and feels sympathy for him: “I’m definitely second-guessing my decision not to mutiny and take out, uh, *Monica*,” **Russell S.** admits to the camera. “You know, the more I thought about it I could have controlled who went home at **Galu** and made some more allies. I just hope that, when this vote is done, I’ll see Mick *tomorrow*,” he says.

Position of Power

Returning to camp after losing Immunity, the downtrodden castaways continue to chat about the challenge and Kelly apologizes for her poor performance. “I just couldn’t get it to go *down*, you know?” she says. “That was the most disgusting thing I’ve ever done,” Laura comments. “I *knew* at some point we were gonna have to eat a bunch of terrible stuff,” Mick then says. It’s clear that he has a defeated attitude. “I seriously thought he was gonna do it,” Natalie tells a somber Mick, referring to the potential of Russell S. mutinying to join their alliance. “Getting Russell [S.] to mutiny and vote out Monica was kinda our last-ditch effort to prevent the tie,” **Mick** tells the camera. “Russell ended up not *doing* it, so I’m like in *panic* mode right now because it’s looking like the vote’s gonna be 3-3 and...that makes me uncomfortable because if people get nervous, you know, all it takes is a little bit of paranoia and...they’ll *flip*.”

Talking in the shelter with Betsy and Natalie, Mick then suggests targeting Kelly: “Obviously everyone’s expecting a *tie* tonight,” Mick begins. “It would make more sense, to me, to vote *Kelly* because, number one, she’s not gonna have an *idol*, and I think, you know, we’re gonna want to take out either Laura or Monica.” Betsy nods her head in agreement. “The reason why myself, Mick, and Natalie are voting for Kelly is because if there is a tie *vote* tonight, Kelly would be given Immunity along with *Mick*,” **Betsy** elaborates, “and...everybody else would have to pull rocks, including Laura and Monica, and...they’re by far the bigger *targets*. You know, I think Kelly’s only here as long as they *carry* her.” “And if you wanted another reason, [Kelly’s] probably the one who *lost* it for us,” Mick then adds. “You’re *right*. That’s another good *reason*,” Betsy chimes in. “Natalie?” Mick asks. “I’ll vote for her,” Natalie agrees. “You know, Kelly’s the vote that we should have made when *Marisa* was voted out,” **Mick** expresses in his confessional, “so...this time we’re gonna get it right and take her out.”

Moments later, Laura approaches Natalie and steals her away from Mick and Betsy: “Natalie, didn’t you say you needed your canteen filled?” Laura inquires.

Natalie says that she was just about to go to the well. "I'm gonna come get some too," Laura then replies. "Right now, Monica, Kel, and I are staying tight and we have to flip *Natalie*," **Laura** calculates. "We don't know what their *plans* are; we don't know who they're voting. You know, none of that matters as long as we can get a fourth vote for *Mick*." Along the way to the water well, Laura and Natalie meet with Kelly and Monica. "We were just wondering, like, if there's any way you would want to vote for *Mick*," Kelly brings up to Natalie. "I don't want to be put in this situation," Natalie bluntly tells them, uncomfortable with their attempt to sway her. "But, I mean, let's *face* it, you're gonna have to make moves if you want to *advance* yourself," Monica pressures her. "This could absolutely be one of those *moments*," Monica continues. "Otherwise you're putting yourself at risk." "I know," Natalie replies. "And who the hell wants to go home seventh because of a stupid rock?" Monica poses. This statement resonates with Natalie: "If the vote was tied between Kelly and *Mick*, I would have a one-in-four chance of goin' home," **Natalie** states. "You know, I had to give up my *job* to come here, so clearly, it's important for me to stay in this game as long as I can. My other option for tonight would be to vote *Mick*, but...it's hard for me to think that I could vote *Mick* because I try to live my life by doing the right thing and being a good person," Natalie then continues in her confessional. "That would make me look so bad," Natalie says to the others. "But think about it. You could really cement your *place* here," Monica adds. "If it's four, we could take you to Final *Four*," Laura then offers.

Suddenly, Mick notices that Natalie is talking on the beach with Laura, Kelly, and Monica: "They're all *down* there," he points out to Betsy. "All *four* of them?!" Betsy asks. "Yeah. See, that makes me *nervous*," Mick admits. "Well, go *talk* to her," Betsy urges him. Feeling uneasy, Mick walks down to the beach and approaches his tribemates: "Hey, uh, are you guys done? Cause I want to talk to Natalie," Mick calls, breaking up the discussion on the beach. "What's going on?" Mick questions Natalie when Laura, Monica, and Kelly walk away. "What do you mean?" Natalie asks, unsure how to respond. "What have they been talking to you about?" an uncomfortable Mick then prompts her. "They've obviously been fighting to *stay*," Natalie divulges. "They want me to vote *you*." Mick is not the least bit surprised: "If you're gonna put my name down, will you just tell me so I don't look like an idiot?" Mick asks her. "I could never *do* that to you," Natalie comforts Mick. "No matter what, it's me, you, and *Betsy*." "You're *sure*?" Mick asks her again, still not convinced. "It's the three of us; it's a done deal," Natalie then tells him. "Okay," Mick says, putting his trust in Natalie. "You know, Natalie's saying that there's no way she would *vote* for me," **Mick** recaps, "but...I don't *know*, man. I mean, of *course*, there's a chance that she's lying and is just trying to make me believe the plan's still on for tonight." As soon as Mick leaves, Laura approaches Natalie again and tells her that Mick knows he's vulnerable. "I wouldn't put it past anyone, not even the young, you know, *blonde* girl to be lying her way, uh, to get to the Final Two," Mick then continues in his confessional, "so...yeah, I'm nervous as *hell* about tonight."

Mick then returns to the shelter to speak to his other ally, Betsy: "I mean, are you pretty confident that she's not gonna flip?" Mick asks Betsy. "Our only chance to stay in the game is to win the tie," Betsy begins, before telling Mick that she's

willing to risk picking rocks. "Yeah, but is *Natalie*?" Mick follows up. "I think she's just scared," Betsy answers him, "but...she'll do the right thing. *She* knows that." As Natalie grabs her torch in preparation for the upcoming Tribal Council, she contemplates her decision: "Tonight, I actually have quite a bit of *power*," an uneasy **Natalie** explains. "You know, unfortunately, I hold the fate of basically every single person in this tribe in my *hands*, and honestly, there's no easy *decision*." Betsy and Mick then grab their torches, as Betsy advises Mick to stop worrying. "I guess we'll find out how loyal Natalie is," Mick says to Betsy. Meanwhile, Monica approaches Natalie and asks her what she's going to do. Natalie confesses that she's still undecided: "Voting out Mick would ensure that I'm here tomorrow and that I make it to the merge, but...you know, I gave him my word and I *swore* to him that I wouldn't *do* that," **Natalie** continues in her confessional. "I also don't want to give myself a 25% chance of goin' home if there *is* a tie, so...this is one of those times where I have to really think *strategically*. I literally don't know what I'm gonna do," she says, as the **Galu** members head out to Tribal Council.

Tribal Council #8 - Galu Tribe

At Tribal Council, Jeff wastes no time in beginning his interrogation. "Let's get right to it," he says. The early discussion centers around the division in the **Galu** tribe. "Monica, looking at yourselves compared to **Foa Foa**, [do] you think this is a strong tribe?" Jeff inquires. "There's strong physically, and then there's strong meaning *unified*," **Monica** responds. "*Physically*, I think we're still strong. I mean, we've been eating chicken; we've won # challenges, but when it comes down to it, we're still two very divided alliances." Jeff asks Laura if she agrees with what Monica just said: "*Absolutely*," **Laura** answers. "There's two separate *sides* right now: you've got me, Monica, and Kel, and then you've got Mick, Betsy, and Natalie. It's been like that almost since Day One. We're hoping that one of them'll flip, and...it's gonna have to be *Natalie*." Mick then raises his eyebrows at this, as Natalie shifts uncomfortably. "Let's talk about possible *targets*," Jeff then changes the subject. "Mick, give me a reason why you'd vote for *Monica* tonight?" Jeff inquires. "I mean, she's been over to **Foa Foa** twice, so you have to assume that she has some connections over there that could help her after the merge," **Mick** states. "Nobody else *does*." "Betsy, why would it make sense for you to vote for Kelly tonight?" Jeff asks. "I think Kelly performed the worst during the *food*-eating challenge," **Betsy** then says, "so I think she's a part of the reason why we're at Tribal Council." Kelly continues to stare ahead, not giving much of a reaction to Betsy's comment. Jeff then turns his attention to Kelly: "Think it'd be fair to vote you out based on today's challenge?" he asks her. "Well, I think it was just one *challenge* and I definitely think I'm a strong contributor in other challenges," **Kelly** rebuts. "I mean, yeah, I understand why she would think that, but, like, Natalie struggled too, so...if you're gonna hold it against *me* you'd have to hold it against her." Jeff then asks Betsy if she can think of a reason why it might make sense to vote for Mick: "I think there's no *reason* [to vote for Mick]," **Betsy** openly states. "There's no good reason, in my opinion, and it would be a shame if he *goes*." Jeff then continues to question the **Galu** members on the possibility of a tie vote: "So you're absolutely okay with this going to a *tie*, knowing that it could be *you* who picks the stone?" Jeff asks Betsy. "I don't want to go *home*, but...if it takes having a tie to

kick one of those three out of here, <she looks towards Monica, Kelly, and Laura> then I'm willing to put myself on the *line*," **Betsy** tells him.

"Monica, what's your take on the tie situation? Jeff asks her. "Well, we all want to make it to the end but some of us are obviously willing to take bigger risks," **Monica** explains. "Do I think Natalie should vote for Mick? *Absolutely*. Otherwise, anyone could go home tonight. If it goes to drawing rocks, there's honestly *no* one who's safe!" Jeff doesn't buy Monica's answer and calls her out on it: "Well, *you* must be prepared to take that same risk if you're not willing to be flexible with your vote..." he criticizes. Monica maintains her composure, however. "I don't think I'll have to," Monica contends. "That's up to *Natalie*." "So Natalie, feel like a lot of pressure's being put on you tonight to vote a certain way?" Jeff asks her. "Oh my word, for *sure*," an overwhelmed **Natalie** replies. "Clearly, you know, I'm the swing vote because I know for sure that no one else is gonna flip. Laura, Kelly, and Monica are absolutely set on voting *Mick* tonight, so...I'm for sure feeling pressure from both sides and being in the middle is really *hard*." Various **Galu** members exchange glances after this statement. Jeff then poses his next statement: "Natalie, *typically* on Survivor, declaring yourself to be the swing vote at Tribal Council does not bode well," Jeff then brings up. "How shocked would you be if, after tonight's vote, it was *you* going home?" Jeff asks, as Laura immediately turns her head. "Um, if it *is*, then that's what God had in mind for me," **Natalie** answers, "but...*honestly*, I don't think it's me tonight. You know, I came to win, of course, and that's what I'm basing my vote on tonight; how I think I'm gonna get farthest, uh, in this *game*."

"Mick, if you were Natalie, what would you do?" Jeff poses. "Well obviously I'm gonna say to not vote for *me*," **Mick** laughs, "but...seriously, I mean, Natalie's already given me her word that she's not going to and her morals and integrity's obviously something that's important to her, so...honestly, I'm expecting a tie," he says. "Well, we'll find out," Jeff comments, leading into the vote. With this, the six **Galu** members cast their votes:

Mick writes Kelly's name down on his piece of parchment: "Kelly, this is strictly strategic because you're the least threatening of your alliance," he says. Laura then casts her vote for **Galu**'s chief, Mick: "Time for you to go so we can have a new chief," she says. The swing vote, Natalie, is the last to place her vote into the urn: "This is the hardest vote I think I'll make in the entire *game*," an emotional Natalie tells the camera, as she contemplates whose name to write down. She casts her vote and then places it into the urn.

Jeff then tallies the votes, and reveals them one at a time to the castaways:

MICK.

KELLY.

Laura, Monica, and Kelly all appear somewhat surprised, not expecting Kelly to be the one to receive votes.

MICK.

KELLY.

"We're tied: two votes *Mick*; two votes Kelly," Jeff recaps.

MONICA.

"*Nooo!*" a bewildered Betsy exclaims, as she looks towards Mick. "I'm *sorry*," a teary-eyed Natalie whispers. With this throwaway vote, Mick knows that Natalie sealed his fate.

MICK.

In a shocking 3-2-1 vote, Mick Trimming, the 33 year-old physician from Los Angeles, California, becomes the eighth person voted out of **Survivor: Samoa**. Although disappointed, Mick doesn't hold Natalie's decision against her: "Stick with Natalie," he instructs Betsy as he hugs her goodbye. Mick then hugs a clearly emotional and regretful Natalie and tells her to "Stick with Betsy." With **Galu**'s chief out of the game, Jeff Probst carries out the final order of business. He hands over the leadership necklace to the **Galu** tribe, who must choose a new leader upon returning to camp.

Mick's Final Words

Feeling disappointed and betrayed by Natalie, Galu's former leader Mick leaves behind his final words: "You know, I'm kinda bummed out right now," he begins. "I *tried*; I really did. You know, I had a great plan; I played hard, but I guess I'm not, uh, cut out to do this. I need to be more of a manipulator and more deceitful, but overall, you know, I'm happy with my accomplishments. I think my morals were worth more to me than a million bucks and, honestly, I'm a little disappointed in Natalie for taking the weasel way out and cutting me short, but uh, I still hope that either Betsy or Natalie can pull it out."

Episode 8 - Undisclosed Title

The game changes when a new leader is elected at Galu and Betsy must fight for her life in order to stay. And an episode filled with one surprise after another culminates with yet another shocking Tribal Council blindside. Who will take the fall?

Episode 7 Voting History:

3 Votes Against	Survivors Voting Against Mick		
			
2 Votes Against	Survivors Voting Against Kelly		
			
1 Vote Against	Survivor Voting Against Monica		
			